

W0-332

c. 1910

John Dale Showell House
Ocean City
Private

The John Dale Showell house distinguishes the center of Ocean City with its location at the corner of North Division Street and Baltimore Avenue. The early twentieth century dwelling combines a common four-square house form with unusual cast concrete porch columns following the Composite Order. A contemporary single-bay garage with shingled siding improves the lot as well.

Showell family ownership of this principal corner lot dates to June of 1904 when John Dale Showell purchased the property for \$316 from John T. and Caroline S. Ensor. It is estimated that the lot was improved within the next few years.

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. WO-332

Magi No.

DOE __yes __no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic JOHN DALE SHOWELL HOUSE

and/or common SHOWELL HOUSE

2. Location

street & number 9 North Division Street ___ not for publication

city, town Ocean City ___ vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Worcester

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
___ district	___ public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	___ agriculture	___ museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	___ unoccupied	___ commercial	___ park
___ structure	___ both	___ work in progress	___ educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
___ site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	___ entertainment	___ religious
___ object	___ in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	___ government	___ scientific
	___ being considered	___ yes: unrestricted	___ industrial	___ transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	___ no	___ military	___ other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name John Dale Showell, III

street & number 50th St. and the Ocean telephone no.: 524-7621

city, town Ocean City state and zip code MD 21842

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Worcester County Clerk of Court liber FWH 132

street & number Worcester County Courthouse folio 191

city, town Snow Hill state MD 21863

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date ___ federal ___ state ___ county ___ local

pository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. WO-332

Condition

☐ excellent
☒ good
☐ fair

Check one

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site

☐ moved

date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The John Dale Showell house stands at 9 North Division Street on the southeast corner of the intersection of North Division Street and Baltimore Avenue in the heart of Ocean City, Worcester County, Maryland. The two-and-a-half story, three-bay frame house faces north with the hip roof oriented on a north/south axis.

Built around 1905, the two-and-a-half story four-square frame house is supported on a raised and rusticated concrete block foundation, and the exterior is uniformly clad with aluminum siding. The steeply pitched hip roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Stretching around three sides of the house is a wraparound porch distinguished by banded and fluted Composite columns.

The north (main) elevation is an asymmetrical facade with a center entrance filled with a partially glazed front door. The adjacent single-pane sash windows are hung with replacement aluminum shutters. Stretching between the porch columns are sections of square baluster handrails. The second floor is lighted by two single-pane sash windows also hung with replacement shutters. Marking the roof is a large hip roofed dormer with paired single-pane sash windows.

The asymmetrical east and west elevations are partially covered by the wraparound concrete columned porch. Bay windows mark each elevation as well as single-pane sash windows. The roof slope on each side is pierced by large hip roof dormers with paired single-pane sash windows.

The south (rear) elevation is partially covered by a single-story kitchen wing.

The interior was not seen.

Standing east of the house is a single story hip roofed garage covered with wood shingles. The garage appears to date from the early twentieth century as well.

8. Significance

Survey No. WO-332

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The John Dale Showell house distinguishes the center of Ocean City with its location at the corner of North Division Street and Baltimore Avenue. The early twentieth century dwelling combines a common four-square house form for the period with unusual cast concrete porch columns following the Composite Order. A contemporary single-bay garage with shingled siding improves the lot as well.

HISTORY AND SUPPORT

Showell family ownership of this principal corner lot dates to June of 1904 when John Dale Showell purchased the property for \$316 from John T. and Caroline S. Ensor.(FHP 21/105) The property remains in Showell family hands.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. WO-332

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

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Zone Easting Northing

B

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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D

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Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Paul B. Touart, Architectural Historian

organization Worcester County Commissioners date 3/11/90

street & number Worcester County Courthouse telephone 301-632-1194

city or town Snow Hill state MD 21863

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

WO-332
JOHN DALE SHOWELL HOUSE
9 North Division Street
Ocean City, Maryland
Chain of title

FWH 132/191

John Dale Showell, Jr.

to

1/4/1959

John Dale Showell, III, and Ann
Lockhart Showell, his wife

ODC 17/215

Nadine Showell Young, and husband,
Eldridge Hood Young

to

9/10/1914

John D. Showell, and Elizabeth W.,
his wife

ODC 17/213

John D. Showell and Elizabeth W., his
wife

to

9/10/1914

Nadine Showell Young

FHP 21/105

John T. Ensor and Caroline S., his
wife

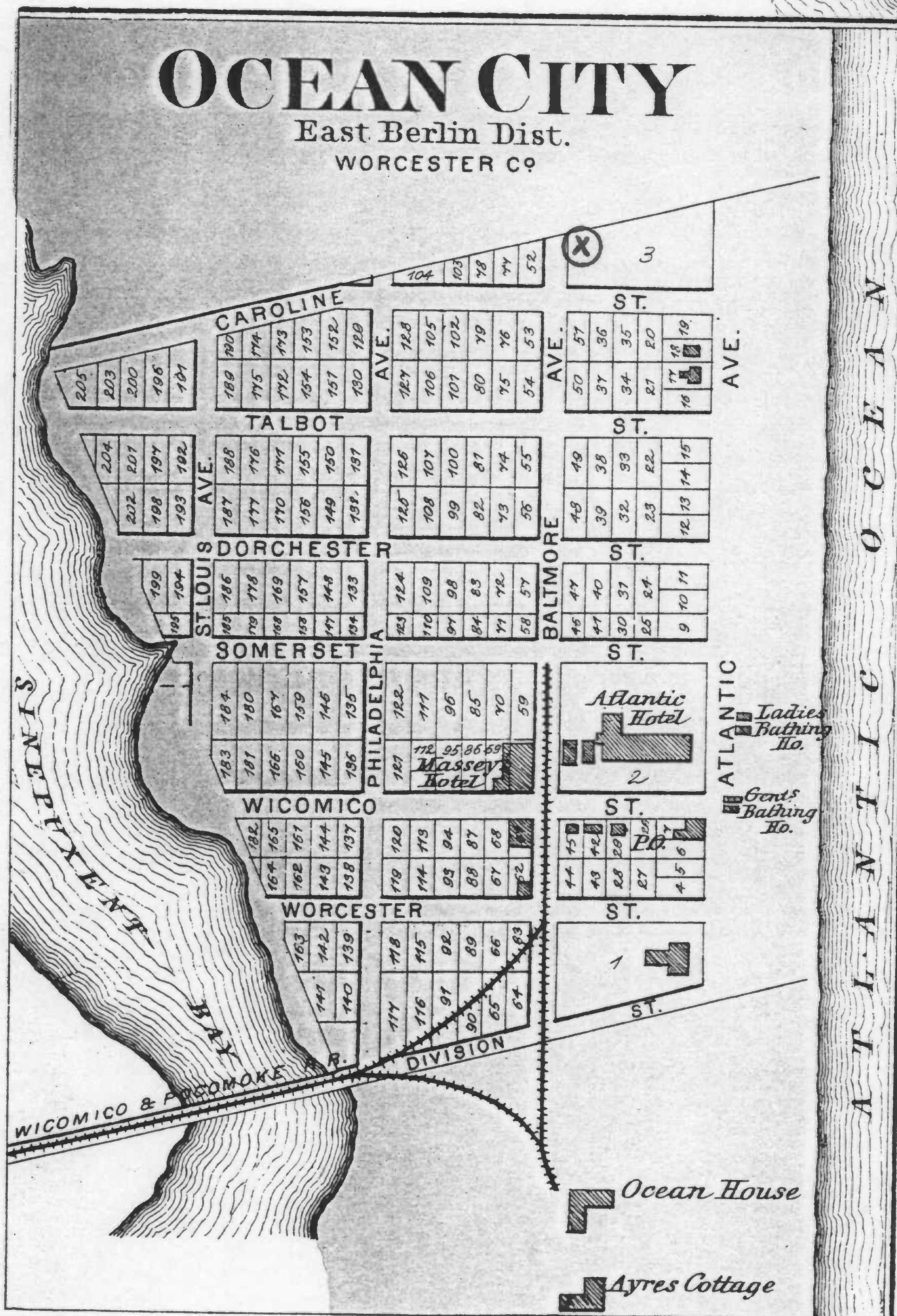
to

6/29/1904

John Dale Showell
\$316

NO-332

LAKE, GRIFKING AND
STEVENSON ATLAS

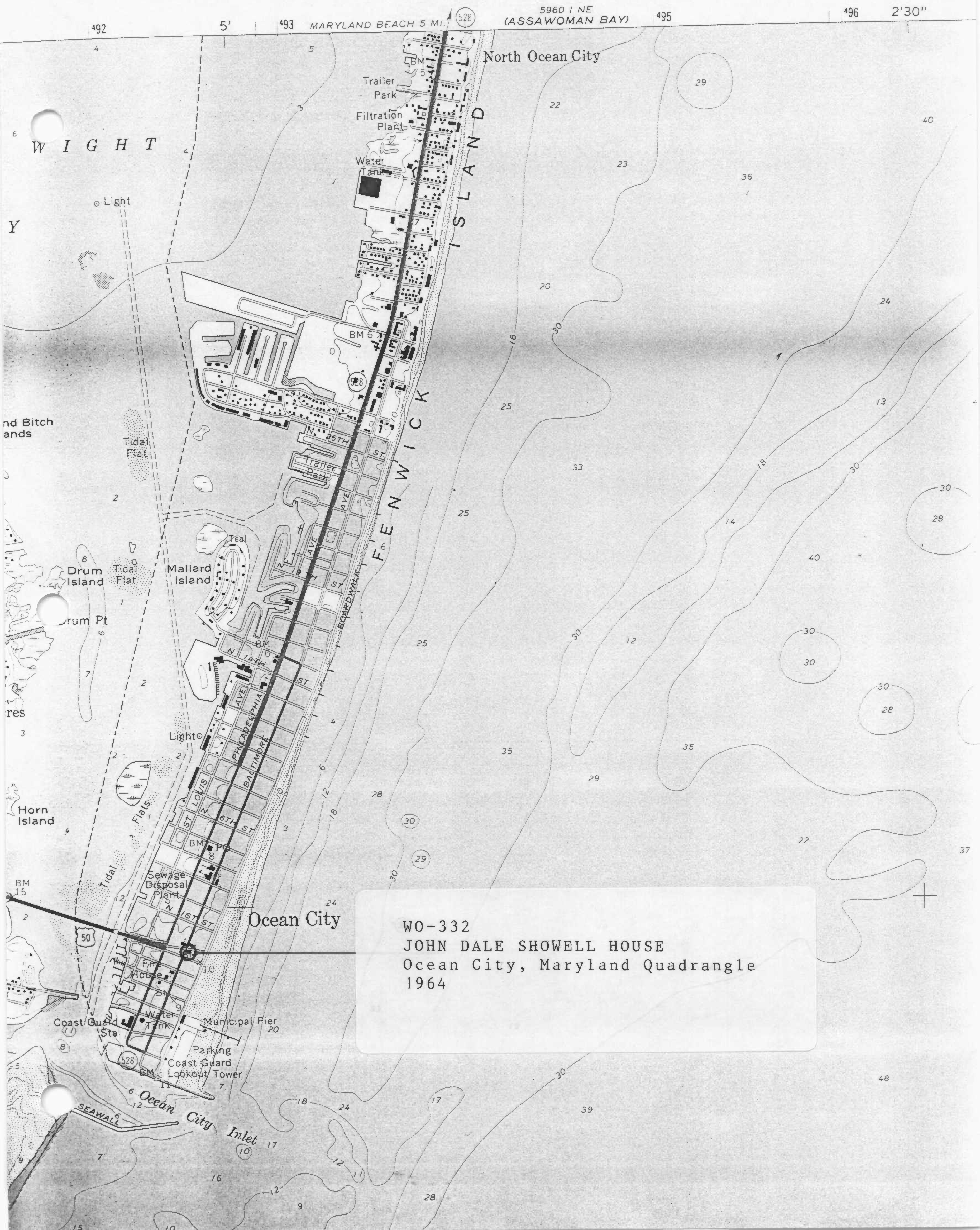


OCEAN CITY BUSINESS REFERENCES.

- J. TRACY**, Proprietor of Atlantic Hotel, Ocean City; also, of Peninsula House, Salisbury.
- SAM'L J. MASSEY**, Proprietor of Seaside House, Ocean City, Md. Terms, two dollars per day; ten dollars per week; meals fifty cents each. Liberal arrangements made with families. First-class Bar, Bowling Alley and Livery Stable attached.
- COFFIN & LYNCH**, Proprietors of the Ocean House, Ocean City.

WHALEYVILLE BUSINESS REFERENCES.

- JOHN P. R. GILLISS**, Physician and Surgeon.
- P. W. DALE & BRO.**, Dealers in Dry Goods, Notions, Boots, Shoes, &c., &c.
- P. WHALEY**, Merchant and R. R. Agent.
- E. T. WHALEY & CO.**, Dealers in Dry Goods, Groceries, Hats, Caps, Boots, Shoes, and Notions.
- JAMES WHALEY**, Judge of the Orphans' Court.
- LEANDER CLIFTON**, Blacksmith. All work in his line done to order.
- J. E. WHITAKER**, Proprietor of Whaleyville Steam Saw Mills. Grinding, Sawing and Carding. All work done in good order.



WO-332
JOHN DALE SHOWELL HOUSE
Ocean City, Maryland Quadrangle
1964

HISTORIC CONTEXT INFORMATION

Resource Name: John Dale Stowell House

MHT Inventory Number: NO - 332

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA:

1) Historic Period Theme(s):

ARCHITECTURE

2) Geographic Orientation:

EASTERN SITE

3) Chronological/Developmental Period(s):

INDUSTRIAL / URBAN DOMINANCE
(1820-1930)

4) Resource Type(s):

STANDING STRUCTURE

1- SINGLE-FAMILY DWELLING